

Message Text

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SUBJ: THAI MEDIA REACTION--VANCE TRIP A FAILURE?

EDITORIAL SEPTEMBER 8 IN THE NATION DISCUSSES CHINESE VICE PREMIER
TENG HSIAO-PING'S ASSERTION THAT THE RECENT VANCE TRIP TO PEKING MARK
ED
AS SETBACK IN SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS. EDIT REFLECTS THE IDEA THAT
WASHINGTON CAN SHED TAIPEI AS TOKYO DID IN THE "JAPANESE FORMULA"
FOR DEALING WITH TAIWAN.

AMERICAN RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN ARE ZCOMPLETELY DIFFERENT," EDIT
CONTINUES, NOTHING THAT "THE PRIMARY AND MOST IMPORTANT (DIFFERENCE)
OF ALL IS THE MILITARY POSTURE WHICH THE U.S. HAS ASSUMED VIS-A-VIS
TAIWAN FOR THREE DECADES WHILE JAPAN WAS NOT BURDENED BY (THIS OBLI-
GATION). EXTRACT FOLLOWS.

(BEGIN EXTRACT)

IT APPEARS THAT VANCE TRIED TO GET SOME SORT OF AN ASSURANCE
FROM CHINA THAT TAIWAN WOULD NOT BE FORCIBLY OCCUPIED IF THE US
MET PEKING'S DEMANDS, BUT TENG HAS SAID THAT CHINA DID NOT PROMISE
ANY SUCH FLEXIBILITY SINCE TAIWAN IS AN INTERNAL PROBLEM OF CHINA.

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LOOKING AT IT FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF JIMMY CARTER, THE
PICUTRE CHANGES SOMEWHAT. CARTER, OF COURSE, DOES NOT UNDERSTAND
ASIA BUT SUCH POLICIES AS HE HAS FORMULATED SHOW ONLY THE IMPORTANCE
OF JANPAN IN THE CALCULATION OF HIS ADMINISTRATION. RECENTLY, AGAINST
JAPANESE WISHES, HE ANNOUNCED THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN GROUND
TROOPS (FROM KOREA). AND HE CANNOT GO RIGHT ON AND ANNOUNCE A DIPLO-
MATIC AND MILITARY BREAK WITH TAIWAN.

CARTER MIGHT NOT CARE MUCH ABOUT THE REST OF ASIA, BUT ANY
TOTAL FRACTURE OF RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN WOULD MAKE AMERICAN CREDIBILI
TY
IN JANPAN COME TUMBLING DOWN--SOMETHING THAT AT THE PRESENT
JUNCTURE, WASHINGTON CANNOT AFFORD.
(END EXTRACT)
MCGINLEY

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